THE COMMVNICAtion betwene my Lord Chauncelor and iudge Hales, being among other iudges to take his oth in VVestminster hall. Anno. M. D. Liii. Vi. of October.

Chauncelor Hales.

MAster Hales, ye shall vnderstand that like as the quenes highnes hath heretofore receiuid good opinion of you, especiallie, for that ye stoode both faithfullie and lawfulli in hir cause of iust succession, refusing to set your hande to the booke amonge others that were against hir grace in that behalfe; so nowe through your owne late desertes: against certain hir highnes dooinges: ye stande not well in hir graces fauour. And therfor, before ye take anie othe, it shal be necessarie for you to make your purgation,

Hales.

I praie you my Lorde, What is the cause?

Chauncelor,

Informatiō is geuen, that ye haue indicted certain pristes in Kent, for saiing of Masse.

Hales.

Mi Lorde it is not so, I indicted none, but in dede certaine indictamentes of like matter wer brought before me at the laste assises there

holdē, and I gaue order thereinas the lawe required. For I haue professed the law, againſt which, in cases of iuſtice wil I neuer (god willinge) procede, nor in ani wiſe diſſemble, but with the ſame ſhewe forth mi conſcience, and if it were to do againe, I wolde doe no leſſe then I did.

Chauncelor.

Yea maſter Hales, your cōſcience is knowne wel inough. I know ye lacke no conſcience.

Hales.

Mi Lord, ye mai do wel to ſerch your owne conſcience, for mine is better knowne to mie ſelfe then to you, and to be plaine, I did aſwell vſe iuſtice in your ſaide Maſſe caſe bi mi cōſcience as bi the law, wherin I am tulli bent to ſtand in trial to the vttermoſt that can be obiected And if I haue therin done ani iniuri or wrōg: let me be iudged bi the lawe, for I will ſeeke no better defence, conſidering chiefli that it is mi profeſſion.

Chauncelor, Whi

Whi maſter Hales, although ye had the rigour of the law on your ſide, yet ye might haue hadde regard to the quenes highnes preſēt doinges in that caſe. And further although ye ſeme to be more then preciſe in the lawe: yet I thinke ye wolde be veri loth to yelde to the extremitie of ſuche aduantage as mighte be gathered againſte your procedinges in the lawe, as ye haue ſome time taken vppon you in place of iuſtice. And if it were well tried, I beleue ye ſhuld not be wel able to ſtand honeſtli therto.

Hales.

Mi Lord i am not ſo perfect but i mai erre for lacke of knowledge. But both inconſience & ſuch knowledge of the law as god hath geuē me, i wil do nothing but i wil maintain and abide in it. And if mi goodes and all that I haue be not able to counterpaiſe the caſe: mi bodie ſhal be redi to ſerue the turne, for thei be all at the quenes highneſſe pleaſure.

Chauncelor.

Ah ſir, ye be veri quicke & ſtoute in your anſwers. But as it ſhculde ſeme, that which ye did was more of a will, fauouring the opinion of your Religion againſt the Seruice nowe vſed, then for ani occaſiō or zeale of iuſtice, ſeinge the quenes highnes dooth ſet it furthe, as yet wiſhinge all hir faithful ſubiectes to imbrace it accordingli: & where ye offer both bodie and goodes in your triall, there is no ſuch matter required at youre handes, and yet ye ſhall not haue your owne will neither.

Hales.

My Lord, I ſeke not wilful will, but to ſhew my ſelf as i am bound in loue to God, and obedience to the quenes maieſtie, in whoſe cauſe willigly for iuſtice ſake (al other reſpectes ſet apart (i did of late (as your Lotdſhip knoeth) aduenture as much as i had. And as for my religion, i truſt it to be ſuche as pleaſeth God, wherin i am redy to aduenture aſwell my life as my ſubſtaūce, if i be called therunto. And

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so in lacke of mine owne power and wil, the Lordes wil be fulfilled.

Chauncelor.

Seing ye be at this point Maſter Hales, i wil preſently make an end with you. The quenes highnes ſhalbe enfourmed of youre opinion, and declaration. And as hir grace ſhal therupon determine, ye ſhall haue knoledge, vntil whiche tyme ye may depart, as ye came without your oth, for as it appeareth, ye ar ſcarſe worthi the place appointed

Hales.

I thancke your Lordſhip, and as for my vocation, being both a burthen and a charge, more then euer i deſired to take vpon me, whenſoeuer it ſhal pleaſe the quenes highnes to eaſe me therof: i ſhall moſt humbli with due contentation obei the ſame.

And ſo departed from the barre.